

AT THE CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

JUNE MEETINGS

Dates & Times: Matinee, 2:30 p.m., Wednesday June 12
Evenings, 8:00 p.m., Wednesday and Thursday, June 12-13

Place: May Treat Morrison Auditorium

Speaker: William F. Kimes

Subject: "EARTH PLANET UNIVERSE — JOHN MUIR"

Mr. Kimes was the John Muir consultant for his film which was produced by KRMA-TV of Denver City Schools for the PBS. He worked closely with the writer, director and camera crew when the filming was done in Yosemite and elsewhere in Mariposa County. As a youth, Mr. Kimes was started on the John Muir trail when the only book he found on the required reading shelf was Muir's "My First Summer in the Sierra."

Since then he has traveled — burro-packing and knapsacking — considerably over a thousand miles in the High Sierra. He has searched out the boyhood haunts of John Muir not only at Fountain Lake and Hickory Hills farm in Wisconsin, but also in Dunbar, Scotland, the place of Muir's birth. The trail has taken him to Switzerland, up the Amazon, and this year to the glaciers of Alaska. His collection of Muiriana is the finest outside a public institution.

Mr. and Mrs. Kimes reside on a ranch in the Mariposa foothills which is in easy reach of the country so loved by Muir. Currently, Mr. Kimes is the John Muir consultant to the National Geographic Society and to the John Muir National Historic Site. For the past several years he has been compiling an annotated bibliography of the published writing of John Muir slated to be in print later this year.

Three presentations as usual and your membership card will admit you through the main

entrance of Cowell Hall. At the matinee performance you will be asked to present it once again at the auditorium entrance.

MORRISON PLANETARIUM

"THE EMPEROR'S HEAVENS" continues in the Theater of the Stars through June 16. Beginning June 20 and playing through September 9:

"HOW BIG? HOW BRIGHT? HOW FAR?" This summertime show explores the many dimensions of space.

The regular performance schedule holds through June 16. However, beginning June 20, performances are scheduled daily for 12:30, 2:00, 3:30 and 8:00 p.m. Admission is one dollar for adults with half-price for those 17 and under.

SPECIAL EXHIBITS

"EGGS, OEUFs, AND AEPYORNIS". Eggs to entrance the eye, including the largest single-cell giant on record — the egg of the Elephant Bird (*Aepyornis*, now extinct) that once thrived on the island of Madagascar. Cowell Hall for an indefinite period.

"MAN AND THE MOON". A fresh look at an eternal subject for the poet, artist and astronaut. Photos, objects, items including the space suit worn by Alfred Worden on the Apollo 15 flight. In Hohfeld Gallery.

"SELECTIONS FROM THE RIETZ COLLECTION" — a mass of material involved in the storage, preparation and serving of food the world around. Also ancient Peruvian textiles. Continues indefinitely in Lovell White Hall.

"PEOPLE/POPULATION" — a look at us and what we seem to be facing. Lower Gallery, Cowell Hall.

"C E T A C E A". Extensive display devoted to marine mammals. Cowell Hall for an indefinite period.

SPECIAL NOTICE

Beginning Saturday June 15, all public areas of the Academy will remain open until nine in the evening. Doors open at ten a.m. as usual. This policy extends through Labor Day, September 2.

Advance notice of Academy monthly meetings: July 17-18, August 14-15, and September 11-12.

News and Notes

Once again, the Junior Academy is offering (and enlarging) its splendid summer schedule of classes for young people from the ages of nine to 18 who are of a scientific bent and would enjoy devoting part of their summer vacation in pursuit of knowledge. Twenty courses are being offered, all taught by experts from the CAS staff or closely allied therewith: Introduction to Animal Physiology, Animal Behavior, Practical Observational Astronomy (parents are invited to take this course along with their offspring), Aquatic Organisms, Botany, Introduction to Biology, Physical Science and You, Conservation of Natural Resources, Geologic Hazards, Everything You've Always Wanted to Know About Physical Science But Were Afraid to Ask, Ichthyology, Herpetology, Introductory Descriptive Chemistry, Insect Ecology, Mineralogy, Marine Ecology, Ornithology, Rocks and Rock-Forming Minerals, Spiders and Their Relatives and Field Geology in the Sierra Nevada.

Two sessions are being offered during the summer: (1) Monday, June 24 through Saturday, July 27; and (2) Monday, July 29 through Saturday, August 24. Registration for all classes is scheduled for Saturday, June 22 in Morrison Auditorium between the hours of ten and four. With the exception of the course, Field Geology in the Sierra Nevada, fees range from \$2 to \$5. If you are interested write or telephone for a Summer 1974 Catalogue which will be furnished on request. 221-5100.

Don't forget the June 8 screenings of a unique motion picture titled "PYGMIES" at the Palace of Fine Arts Theatre in San Francisco.

Three performances at 1:00, 4:00 and 8:00 p.m. The Academy will benefit financially from this special event. The film in color was written, directed and produced by Jean-Pierre Hallet who will be present at each performance. General Admission: \$5. Special discount price for Academy members and students is \$3. This film never has been televised nor has it played in commercial theatres.

The Information Desk in Cowell Hall is an unqualified success. Daily we have been able to assist hundreds of visitors not only to

the marvels of the Academy but to Golden Gate Park itself. Staffed by enthusiastic volunteers, questions of all sorts are answered, directions given, and information of many kinds supplied.

However, in order to have the desk in operation all during the day and throughout the week, we are in urgent need of additional volunteers who would enjoy this sort of rapport with our public. We invite you to call 211-5100 and arrange for an interview. If you can spare them, just a few hours a week will be a great source of satisfaction not only to you but to the broad spectrum of people visiting the CAS. Ask for Extension 63.

The National Science Foundation

has announced the continuance of two important research grants to the Academy, both highly necessary in the furtherance of projects already in process.

A grant in the amount of \$42,100 has been supplied for a project entitled "Curatorial Support for the Entomology Collection" under the direction of Dr. Paul H. Arnaud, Jr., Department of Entomology. Another, in the amount of \$32,300 has been made for a project under the direction of Dr. William N. Eschmeyer, Department of Ichthyology, "Curating the Fish Collection of the California Academy of Sciences." Unless otherwise amended, both grants expire November 30, 1975.

We are deeply grateful for this recognition afforded by the National Science Foundation.

ACADEMY MEMBERS' TRIP — AUTUMN 1974

SNAKE RIVER TOUR — September 1-6

This rugged rafting trip on the Snake River will go through Hell's Canyon, one of North America's deepest gorges, abundant with animal, bird, fish and plant life. There will be opportunities for good trout and bass fishing. Five days will be spent running the river between Hell's Canyon Dam and the confluence of the Snake with the Grande Ronde River, a total of 85 miles. Meals will be provided from lunch on the first day through lunch on the sixth day. You will camp out each night.

Arrangements can be made through Gulliver's Travel for transportation to the headquarters at Cambridge, Idaho. Cost exclusive of transportation is \$260.00. Deposit \$50

(check payable to Gulliver's Travel). Remainder payable by August 5. Limit: 25 members, minimum age 10. Reservations with deposit by mail to Gulliver's Travel, 3597 Sacramento Street, San Francisco 94118.

STANISLAUS RIVER TOUR — September 28-29

This two-day river rafting trip on the beautiful Stanislaus may be your final opportunity to enjoy this natural area, because of the recently approved New Melones Dam project. During the journey from Camp Nine leaving at 8:00 a.m. to the Route 49 bridge, travelers will have the chance to explore side creeks, canyons and limestone caverns. You will be accompanied by experienced whitewater boatmen and naturalists. Meals will be provided from lunch on Saturday through lunch on Sunday, and you will camp under the stars. The cost is \$60.00. We can accommodate 25 members, minimum age of 10 years. Reservations by mail only to the Travel Department of the Academy. Checks should be payable to the California Academy of Sciences and sent to the Academy. Further details will accompany confirmation.



For comparative purposes, Dr. George Lindsay holds in his left hand the egg of the extinct elephant bird which thrived during the Pleistocene. His right hand holds that of a hummingbird. Known scientifically as *Aepyornis*, this flightless bird laid eggs that averaged from eleven to fourteen inches in length. Fossilized specimens have been found (along with skeletal remains) exclusively on the island of Madagascar and are certainly the largest on record.

Aepyornis stood some nine feet in height

and was approximately one foot shorter than the extinct Moa, another flightless bird that existed in New Zealand. However, it was considerably heavier than the Moa as evidenced by recovered and reconstructed fossilized bits and pieces. Both were earthbound vegetarians that, considering the panorama of history, lived in comparatively recent times and were coexistent with man. This fact probably accounts for their undoing and caused their extinction.

In the world of science, *Aepyornis* was a genus of ratite bird (ones with a flat or unkeeled breastbone). This physical fact precludes flight. The marvelous egg is a recent acquisition and is on display in Cowell Hall.

MEET THE STAFF



KENNETH A. PATTERSON, Assistant Technician and Lecturer for Morrison Planetarium, has two important "A"s in his life — art and astronomy — both of which have been inextricably linked in his professional life.

As a child, he was occupied with the movement of the heavens and at the same time fascinated by all the wonders that could be created with ink, paint and paper. After graduating from Newton High School near Boston, he enlisted in the Air Force, became an electronics technician, and spent his four-year hitch in such disparate places as Istanbul and Tokyo. After discharge, he spent four additional years as a draftsman with a Boston electronics firm. However, the world of art was always in the back of his mind, so he applied for registration at two art schools and was accepted immediately by one — the San Francisco Art Institute. Forthwith, he came "cold" to the Bay Area. His major at school was photography with etching and lithography as runners-up in interest.

Ken gravitated to Morrison Planetarium for

every change of show and during one visit and in conversation with a member of the staff, found himself employed as an usher and within the matter of a month was in charge as a lecturer at the planetarium console. He has been doing it ever since. Following graduation at the Art Institute, Ken moved into full-time status at the Academy.

He has many capabilities. Not only does he lecture but has been involved in the writing and designing of some of the shows, creating slides for them, arranging the necessary music and public announcements.

He met his wife Charlotte when she was employed at one of the CAS sales desks. This led to a wedding ceremony on Angel Island in San Francisco Bay. The Pattersons share many interests. They enjoy exploring the California coast and find tidepooling particularly intriguing. Ken often photographs and sketches their finds which eventually become silk screen subjects in the graphics studio he is building at home.

NEW MEMBERS OF THE ACADEMY

REGULAR MEMBERS

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Mr. C. F. Allen | Miss Dorothy Anne Lewis |
| Miss Linda Arnold | Mr. & Mrs. Julian F. Littman |
| Miss Susan A. Atwood | Miss Marjorie J. Madison |
| Dr. John H. Austin | Mrs. Grace M. Miller |
| Miss Madeline Haas Boyer | Mrs. John Evan Morgan |
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| Miss Genevieve Cotton | Miss Jane Rocke |
| Miss Dianne H. Dienstein | Miss Ellen Ross |
| Mr. Dzintar E. Dravnieks | Ms. Joann Stevenson |
| Mr. James W. Eaton | Mr. H. F. Swartz |
| Mr. Jim Freeman | Miss Susan A. Thompson |
| Miss Emma Gee | Mr. Roger P. Van Craeynest |
| Mrs. John Gibbs | Mr. Peter Vasilev |
| Ms. Orene Goldberg | Mr. & Mrs. Fred Walker |
| Miss Carol Alexandra Gray | Mr. Michael D. Warren |
| Miss Marcia Hisako Kawabata | Miss Mary E. Watson |
| Mr. Rob Kimmick | Dr. Wm. Bruce Weaver |
| Mr. Robert F. LaVerne | Mr. Brian Whittaker |
| | Mr. William H. Wright |

FAMILY MEMBERS

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|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Dr. Robert H. Bacon | Ms. Margaret L. Oakley |
| Richard Brophy Foundation | Mr. & Mrs. Donald H. Outsen |
| Mr. Neal J. Cappa | Mr. & Mrs. D. Philpot |
| Mr. Richard B. Clark | Mrs. Marsha H. Price |
| Mr. Floyd J. Feaver | Mr. Michael Rotenberg |
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| | Mr. & Mrs. Richard M. Woods |

CONTRIBUTING MEMBER

Dr. Elinor Spring-Mills

CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES NEWSLETTER

GOLDEN GATE PARK
SAN FRANCISCO 94118
(415) 221-5100

JUNE 1974

NO. 414

Printed on 100% Recycled Paper

Ref.
Q 11
C22
110.414

